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Comments:

I think that the following changes to the current proposed Forest Plan should include protecting the "wilderness character" of the WSA, not the Forest Service's weak proposal to protect the existing character. I also think that the Plan must protect wilderness character by classifying all of them with the Forest Service's "Primitive" standard, the most protective standard.

Restore strong protection to the lands within the WSA that the federal government purchased following the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill. When these lands were acquired for the restoration of wilderness values it was promised that they be managed "in perpetuity for conservation and wilderness purposes." This should happen.

The Chugach NF must address ongoing illegal recreational use of chainsaws in the WSA, which has resulted in damaging tree removal along dozens of wilderness beaches, including sensitive areas.

Alternative D recommends the maximum amount of land for Wilderness of any of the Alternatives (97 percent of the WSA, or 1.884 million acres). I support a modified Alternative D wilderness recommendation that also includes Lake Nellie Juan and the lands within the WSA boundary that were purchased for restoration of wilderness resources following the oil spill.